

CLAIMS

1. A portable communication apparatus (1), comprising
a microphone (14) and a processing device (31) having an
5 input (37) operatively coupled to the microphone, wherein
the processing device is adapted to generate a digital
output signal from a first electric signal received from
the microphone, the portable communication apparatus
further comprising a reading device (17; 52) adapted to
10 generate a second electric signal from an optical or
magnetic input signal, **characterized** in that

the processing device (31) is operatively coupled to
the reading device (17; 52), so that the second electric
signal from the reading device may be received at the input
15 (37) of the processing device.

2. A portable communication apparatus as in claim 1,
further comprising a switching device (22) having a first
input (26) coupled to the microphone (14), a second input
20 (28) coupled to the reading device (17; 52), an output (30)
coupled to the processing device (31), and a control input
(24) for selecting whether the first or the second electric
signal is to be forwarded to the processing device.

25 3. A portable communication apparatus as in claim 1
or 2, wherein the reading device (17) comprises an optical
emitter (44) and an optical receiver (50) for reading
information stored in a barcode (42).

30 4. A portable communication apparatus as in claim 1
or 2, wherein the reading device (52) comprises a magnetic
sensor, such as a coil (52), for reading information stored
in a magnetic strip (54) on a card (53).

35 5. A portable communication apparatus as in any
preceding claim, wherein the processing device (31)

comprises an amplifier (32), an A/D converter (34) and a digital signal processor (36).

6. A portable communication apparatus as in any
5 preceding claim, wherein the apparatus is a radio telephone, preferably a mobile telephone (1).

7. A portable communication apparatus as in any
preceding claim, wherein the reading device (17; 52) is
10 integrated inside an apparatus housing (10) of the portable communication apparatus (1).

8. A portable communication apparatus as in any of
claims 1-6, wherein the reading device (17; 52) is located
15 outside an apparatus housing (10) of the portable communication apparatus (1) and is connected through an accessory connector (16) provided in the apparatus housing.